Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 AID-05 /079 W

-----025583 051206Z /53

R 050800Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9244

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL VIENTIANE 0523

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP PORG LA TH ID RP MY SN CB

SUBJECT: LAO FOREIGN MINISTER SEEKS TO VISIT ASEAN STATES

- 1. AN ASEAN STATE AMBASSADOR BASED IN VIENTIANE TOLD US MAY 5 THAT LAO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER PHOUNE SIPRASEUT WOULD BY VISITING KUALA LUMPUR FROM EITHER MAY 14 OR 15 TO MAY 17. THE LAO FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO REPORTEDLY WANTS TO VISIT JAKARTA, SINGAPORE AND MANILA DURING MAY BUT IT APPEARS THAT NONE OF THESE OTHER ASEAN CAPITALS WILL EXTEND INVITATIONS TO HIM FOR THIS PERIOD.
- 2. ACCORDING TO A SENIOR RELIABLE ASEAN SOURCE, JAKARTA HAS INFORMED ITS EMBASSY IN VIENTIANE THAT A RESPONSE CONFIDENTIAL

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TO THE LAO REQUEST FOR AN INVITATION TO PHOUNE TO VISIT JAKARTA WILL BE PASSED TO THE LAO THROUGH THE THAI FOREIGN MINISTER.

3. FIRM DATES FOR A VISIT TO VARIOUS ASEAN CAPITALS BY KAMPUCHEAN FOREIGN MINISTER IENG SARY HAVE NOT BEEN SET, THOUGH IT APPEARS THAT A FACTOR IN THE RELUCTANCE

OF SOME ASEAM STATES TO RECEIVE PHOUNE AT THIS TIME IS FEAR THAT THE LAO FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT COULD INTERFERE WITH SCHEDULING FOR THE KAMPUCHEAN'S VISIT.

4. COMMENT: JAKARTA'S DECISION TOMMAKE USE OF THE THAI IN RESPONDING TO THE LPDR'S BID FOR AN INVITATION FOR PHOUNE TO VISIT INDONESIA SUGGESTS THAT THAILAND MAY BE SERVING AS A SORT OF OFFICIAL CHANNEL FOR ASEAN COMMUNICATIONS WITH LAOS. ROBERTS

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NNN

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